

OSHA Hazard Communication and New Global Harmonization

Hazard Communication is understanding the hazards of the substances you are working with in the workplace. Common Hazardous Substances can include – Flammable Liquids, Combustible Material, Compressed Gases, Dust and Fumes

Always follow the safety rules on the labels and safety data sheets. Know what to do if you have an accident with a hazardous substance. Every employer must have a written hazard communication plan and a list of hazardous substance on-site.










The OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard has been updated to better protect workers from hazardous chemicals. 2 main components may affect you.

NEW LABELS – in addition to the chemical name and manufacturer's information, labels now will include:

Harmonized signal words – to communicate severity of hazard. Only used if required, so there may not be a signal word on every level. There are two words that can appear:

Danger (Serious) and ***Warning*** (Less Serious)

Pictograms – There are nine pictograms to show the health, physical and environmental hazards.

 <p>Health Hazard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive toxicity • Respiratory sensitizer • Target organ toxicity • Aspiration toxicity 	 <p>Flame</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-heating • Emits flammable gas • Self-reactives • Organic peroxides 	 <p>Exclamation Mark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritant (skin and eye) • Skin sensitizer • Acute toxicity (harmful) • Narcotic effects • Respiratory tract irritant • Hazardous to ozone layer (non-mandatory)
 <p>Gas Cylinder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases under pressure 	 <p>Corrosion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin Corrosion/ burns • Eye damage • Corrosive to metals 	 <p>Exploding Bomb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-reactives • Organic peroxides
 <p>Flame Over Circle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	 <p>Environment (Non-mandatory)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic toxicity 	 <p>Skull and Crossbones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute toxicity (fatal or toxic)

Precautionary Statement – describes recommended Prevention, Response, Storage and Disposal techniques to minimize effects of chemical exposure. These can include: “Wear protective gloves,” “Call Poison Control immediately,” “Keep container tightly closed,” “Dispose of contents in accordance with local regulations.”

Hazard Statement – describes the chemical’s hazards (IE – keep away from eyes)

SAFETY DATA SHEET - information will be easier to find and understand through the use of standardized 16-section format:

1. **Identification** - includes product identifier; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.
2. **Hazard(s) identification** - includes all hazards regarding the chemical; required label elements.
3. **Composition/information** - on ingredients includes information on chemical ingredients; trade secret claims.
4. **First-aid measures** - includes important symptoms/ effects, acute, delayed; required treatment.
5. **Fire-fighting measures** - lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment; chemical hazards from fire.
6. **Accidental release measures** - lists emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment and cleanup.
7. **Handling and storage** - lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatibilities.
8. **Exposure controls/personal protection** - lists OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs); Threshold Limit Values (TLVs); appropriate engineering controls; personal protective equipment (PPE).
9. **Physical and chemical properties** - lists the chemical's characteristics.
10. **Stability and reactivity** - lists chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.
11. **Toxicological information** - includes routes of exposure; related symptoms, acute and chronic effects; numerical measures of toxicity.
12. **Ecological information***
13. **Disposal considerations***
14. **Transport information***
15. **Regulatory information***
16. **Other information** - includes the date of preparation or last revision.

*OSHA will not enforce because they relate to other agencies

You may see old and new versions of safety data sheets and labels until 2016 as the new format is transitioned into effect.

Job Specific Topics (include what types of hazardous substances you have on your site):

Questions:
